

Top Secret

EASTERN EUROPE: Possible Record Grain Harvest

Grain production in 1982 in Eastern Europe is likely to total about 98 million tons, surpassing the record crop of 96.2 million tons in 1978 and marking a significant increase over the poor harvest last year of 92 million tons. Bumper crops in East Germany, Hungary, and Poland and an above-average harvest in Yugoslavía will offset poorer showings in Romania, Bulgaria, and Czechoslovakia.

Comment: This estimate reflects an increase of about 4 million tons from forecasts in August. The change was prompted in part by preliminary harvest results in East Germany and Romania, which proved somewhat better than anticipated. Other factors included excellent weather throughout the region that minimized seasonal losses for small grains, and ideal growing conditions in the southern countries, where the corn crop accounts for about one-third of East European grain production,

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